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" IN A PERFECT WORLD "

BY

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THE LAST (2) NIGHTS, I HAVE COME HOME FROM WORK AND CHANGED CLOTHES AND WENT ABOUT THE TASK OF SCRAMBLING AROUND LOOKING FOR ANY DEAD OR DYING TIMBER THAT WE COULD USE FOR FIRE WOOD. THE SUB-ZERO WEATHER HAS A NEGATIVE AFFECT ON MY BREATHING CAPABILITIES, BUT IT IS NOT AS BAD AS THE HEAT. BY THE TIME I GOT TO IT, IT WAS USUALLY AFTER DARK. I AM TRAINING A NEW DETENTION OFFICER, AND THAT GENERALLY TAKES US INTO OVER-TIME. I HAVE A DIFFICULT TIME GETTING TIMBER TO FALL "MY" WAY IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, BUT WITH THE HELP OF A FLASHLIGHT AND A WEDGE AND A SLEDGE, I MANAGED. I WAS TOLD BY KAREN BERRY THAT I WOULD BE RECEIVING (2) CORDS OF WOOD AFTER THE FIRST OF THE YEAR. I FAILED TO ASK WHICH YEAR, SO I'LL TAKE THE HEAT FOR THAT ONE. YOU SEE, THE PROPANE HEATER WE HAVE ONLY GETS USED IN MODERATE WEATHER, CAUSE IT IS NOT "PONY" ENOUGH TO EFFICIENTLY HEAT OUR HOME IN BITTER COLD WEATHER. AT TIMES WE USE IT TO BACK UP THE WOOD FURNACE, THOUGH. WELL, ABOUT THE TIME WE GOT SO SHORT OF WOOD (AND NONE HAD SHOWED UP), WE DECIDED TO GO AHEAD WITH WOOD AND GAS. GEE, THE GAS STOVE GAVE US THE HIGH SIGN AND WENT ON STRIKE FOR WHAT EVER REASON. THAT WAS SUNDAY NIGHT, AND I HAD TO HAVE A REPAIRMAN COME OUT ON AN EMERGENCY STATUS. THAT WAS ONLY \$100.00 // THAT AIN'T REALLY MUCH IF YOUR MAKING \$25.00 + PER HOUR, BUT IT PINCHES HARD AT \$11.10 PER HOUR. I GUESS THAT AIN'T MUCH COMPARED TO THE HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS DAMAGE DONE BY THE CARELESS B.S. THAT WAS PULLED WITH THE WATER HEATER INCIDENT.

WELL, THOUGH WE HAD TO CANCEL THE "WINDOW" I HAD ARRANGED WITH MIKE FISSORI CONSTRUCTION, AND ARE STILL GETTING THIS DONE IN PHASES, WE WILL SOON BE ALLOWED TO MOVE OUT OF OUR LIVING ROOM, AND BACK TO THE BED ROOMS. THAT MEANS EVERYTHING, SO NOW WE WON'T HAVE ANY THING BUT NECESSARY ACCESS TO THE BATHROOM AND KITCHEN. BUT HEY, THAT REALLY BEATS THE TUNE OF TAKING A BATH IN THE KITCHEN SINK. WE DID THAT FOR ABOUT (6) WEEKS, BUT EVEN THOUGH THE BATH STILL NEEDS FINISH-WORK-SHOWERS ARE REALLY PRETTY NEAT. HADN'T HAD ONE SINCE NOT LONG AFTER I RETURNED FROM THE MOTEL AFTER ROUND (2) PHASE OF THE CLEAN UP PROCESS. BUT HEY, WE MODERN DAY MONTANANS ARE USED TO SOME SMALL IN-CONVENIENCES. GOOD PERSONAL HYGIENE IS A MUST WHERE I WORK. A DECENT OPERATING HEATING SYSTEM IS ALMOST A MUST NO MATTER HOW TOUGH YOU ARE!

GOING BACK TO ROUND (2). THAT SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN NECESSARY. / I TOLD THE CREW THAT IF THERE WAS VERMICULITE BEHIND ANY ONE WALL, IT WOULD PROBABLY BE BEHIND ALL OF THEM. BUT I GUESS SINCE I ONLY HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION, AND VERY LITTLE COLLEGE, MY OPINION DIDN'T COUNT FOR MUCH. THEY DRILLED A LOT OF NICE HOLES IN THE WALL, BUT LEAST THEY WERE ALL THE SAME SIZE, SO THEY ALL MATCHED. WHEN THEY GAVE MY HOME A CLEAN BILL OF HEALTH, I BEGAN TEARING THE INTERIOR SHEET ING DOWN, AND THAT'S WHEN MY FAMILY AND I ALL GOT EXPOSED TO THE LEFT OVER REMNANTS OF VERMICULITE WHICH WERE BEHIND THE WALLS WHERE MY UN-EDUCATED BUTT TOLD YOU IT'D BE. AS YOU KNOW A (3-4) DAY STAY TURNED INTO ABOUT 18 DAYS

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THIS IS ACTUALLY DIFFICULT TO WALK BACKWARD IN THE STORY RATHER THAN FORWARD. WHAT'S OUR COMPLAINTYON ROUND (2)? WELL, YOUR NOT WANTING TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE WATER HEATER DAMAGE. I AM NOT TALKING ABOUT NEW LINOLEUM, I AM TALKING ABOUT THE DAMAGE DONE TO THE FLOOR THAT REQUIRED REPLACEMENT OF MATERILA AND LABOR. NO FIRE-WOOD DELIVERED AS PROMISED. BUT, LIKE I SAID, I DIDN'T ASK WHICH YEAR.

I AM TRYING TO BE BRIEF, BUT IN DIONG SO, I AM PROBABLY FORGETTING A LOT OF INFO THAT YOU SHOULD BE AWARE OF. BUT, GOING BACK TO RE-ENTERING MY HOME AFTER ROUND ONE. WE HAVE BEEN THRU QUITE A BIT OF THAT ABOARDY. THE EXPOSED TACK STRIPS, THE STUFF THEY SPRAYED ON MY FURNACE THAT ENDED UP TAKING WEEKS TO BURN OFF. THE CONDITION MY BASEMENT, THE LAWN ALL CHEWED TO B-BILLY FROM THE TRAFFIC NECESSARY TO "TRY" AND GET ALL THE VERMICULITE OUT OF MY HOME. OH, AND KAREN BERRY SAID "DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, TOM, IT'S GOING TO BE AS IF WE WERE HERE TO DO YOUR SPRING CLEANING. MY PLACE LOOKED LIKE THE 2ND RUNNING OF THE MICROBURST, COMPLETE WITH A DERELICT BATHROOM SINK THAT WAS NOT HOOKED UP ANY WAY. NO PHONE AND NO GAS FURNACE. I ACTUALLY WANTED TO GO BACK TO THE SANDMAN UNTILL THINGS GOT BETTER. AFTER THAT ROUND, I TOLD ER CDM EPA, WHOEVER THAT I WOULD FIX WHAT I COULD OF THIS. THAT'S WHERE I MADE A BIG MISTAKE. SEEMS THEY MISTOOK KINDNESS FOR WEAKNESS, AND NEVER OFFERED TO HELP WITH THE BASEMENT FLOOR THAT WAS LEFT IN A HEAP. THAT HELP CAME (TO SOME DEGREE) WEHN TWO OF THE FELLAS SHOWED UP TO SCRAPE RESIDUE OFF THE FURNACE. I WAS PRETTY OVER-MATCHED, AND THEY COULD SEE THAT. I MEAN, THE WEIGHT MACHINE GOES AT ABOUT 320#. THEY HAD JUST THROWN DOWN THE FRAME WORK THAT I HAD PUT TOGETHER WITH SUCH CARE, THROWN A BUNCH OF PLYWOOD ON TOP OF IT AND THEN PUT MY WEIGHT MACHINE ON TOP OF THAT. THOSE (2) FELLAS AT LEAST HELPED GET THE FRAME WORK STRAIGHTENED OUT, AND THE FLOOR REBUILT. NOT AS LEVEL, BUT OH WELL, IT'S JSU AN OLD FARM HOUSE. DURING ROUND ONE, THEY ALSO TOSSED OUT A RUG THAT THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO SAVE. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, I HAVE NOT RECEIVED CREDIT FOR THAT YET, BUT I DID HAVE A NEW CARPET INSTALLED, AND THE COST WAS A BIT HIGHER THAN YOUR "BID". I PAYED IT ANYWAY. AFTER I HAD RECEIVED A CLEAN BILL OF HEATH, I BEGAN SALVAGING LUMBER AS I DID TEAR DOWN FOR FISSORI CONSTRUCTION. THAT CAME TO A HALT BECAUSE I FOUND MORE VERMICULITE AS EARLIER MENTIONED. BECAUSE I COULD NO LONGER SALVAGE, I (NICE GUY THAT I AM) OFFERED TO TAKE A "VERY" LO-BALL SETTLEMENT ON THAT DEAL. I GUESS THEY ARE TELLING ME TOUGH S—SKY ON THE FLOORING THAT GOT RUINED. FROM THE LOOKS OF IT THE FIRE WOOD TOO. I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO TELL YOU; MAN, BUT I THINK I KINDA GOT CRAPPED ON. IN A PERFECT WORLD, I WOULD NOT HAVE LET YOUR STINKING DEMO CREW NEAR MY HOUSE. I GUESS IT'S TOOGATE FOR THAT. YOU CAN'T COMPENSATE FOR THE LUNG PROBLEMS I HAVE HAD SINCE THE GLUE ON THE FURNACE THING, BUT I SINCERELY EXPECT YOU TO COMPENSATE ME WHERE YOU CAN. GOTTA GO! TO MY KNOWLEDGE I AM STILL ON MY OWN WITH THIS FIRE WOOD THING AND +11 DOES NOT CLASSIFY AS A HEAT WAVE. THANKS. THOMAS CREIGHTON